



U.S. Army Materiel Command Band

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Frederick Ellwein

Band commander

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Frederick Ellwein, a native of Sioux Falls, S.D., started his military career by enlisting as a euphonium player in the South Dakota Army National Guard in 1979. Mr. Ellwein earned his Bachelor of Music Education and Master of Education degrees from South Dakota State University.

After assuming command of the 147th Army Band in 1989, Chief Ellwein led his unit on two successful overseas deployments to Central America and produced two compact discs. The CDs, titled “Infinite Variety” (1996) and “Sergeant Rock” (1999), featuring musical selections from all of the principal ensembles of the 147th Army Band.

Prior to assuming command of the AMC Band, Mr. Ellwein’s previous active duty assignment was at U.S. Army Human Resources Command as the Reserve Component Staff Bands Officer, Department of the Army Staff Bands Office. His responsibilities included technical evaluation, policy and resource management, Army Component liaison and administrative oversight for all Army Reserve and Army National Guard bands.



Mr. Ellwein’s military awards include; the Meritorious Service Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, the Army Commendation Medal, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster.

His civilian employment as a music educator spanned from 1983 to 2003, culminating with positions as Director of Bands and Jazz Studies at South Dakota School of Mines & Technology, and Director of Bands at Rapid City South Middle School [2003]. Mr. Ellwein also held positions as Associate Director of Bands, Rapid City Central High School, and Director of Bands, Mitchell High School, Mitchell, SD.

During his career as a music educator, Mr. Ellwein co-founded the South Dakota All-State Jazz Festival in 1988, and led the Rapid City Central High School Jazz program to notable recognition at such prestigious events as the UNC-Greeley Jazz Festival in Colorado, and the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival at the University of Idaho. Additionally, Mr. Ellwein served on the summer faculty of Wheaton College, Ill., as adjunct instructor for jazz improvisation studies. He remains a member of the South Dakota Bandmasters Association, past-president of the Sigma Chapter of Phi Beta Mu, the international bandmaster’s fraternity.

Mr. Ellwein is married to Sergeant Major Dianne Ellwein who is currently assigned as Chief Career Management NCO and Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Army National Guard Chaplain Corps. They have three children; T.J., age 17; Kaitlin, age 16; and Austin, age 8.

As of Sept. 2009